Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of defining Business Classes for modeling a business activity comprising the steps of:

representing said business activity as an interaction between one or more Business Classes, wherein each Business Class is a generic definition of a Business Object and the Business Object is an instance of the Business Class;

providing a graphical user interface (GUI) for linking desired ones of said Business Classes to generate relationships existing between said one or more Business Classes; and

storing in a digital electronic format said one or more Business Classes as well as the relationships existing between said one or more Business Classes.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising entering into a computer said one or more Business Classes comprising the steps of:

entering Business Attributes related to each of said one or more Business Classes;

defining Business Processes related to each of said one or more Business Classes; and

entering Business Rules associated with one or more Business Attributes.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein defining Business Processes comprises the additional steps of:

defining one or more Business States indicative of the status of a Business Classes; and

defining one or more Business Methods to logically define the steps required to move a Business Class between one or more Business States.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein entering said Business Classes comprises the additional step of defining messages whereby each of said Business Classes may

interact with each of said other Business Classes or code external to each of said other Business Classes

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4 wherein entering said Business Classes comprises the additional step of defining one or more web pages associated with each of said one or more Business Classes.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein entering into a computer said Business Classes comprises the additional step of diagramming the relationship between a plurality of Business Classes using a graphical user interface (GUI).

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 6 wherein diagramming the relationships between said plurality of Business Classes comprises the steps of:
selecting an icon from an object palette to represent one of said plurality of Business Classes;
dragging and dumping said icon upon a user desktop in a desired location; and
defining the relationships between each of said plurality of Business Classes represented by said icons.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 wherein defining the relationships between each of said plurality of Business Classes represented by said icons comprises the additional steps of:
selecting a first one of said icons;
selecting a second one or said icons; and
specifying the nature of the relationship between said first and said second icons.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein specifying the nature of the relationship between said first and said second icons comprises the additional step of selecting an icon from a relationship palette.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9 wherein defining Business Processes related to each of said one or more Business Classes comprises the additional step of diagramming Business States and Business Methods.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10 wherein defining one or more of said Business States and Business Methods is performed through a GUI.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of claim 11 wherein defining one or more of said Business States and Business Methods comprises the additional steps of:

selecting a business state icon from an object palette;

dragging and dropping one or more of said business states icons upon a user desktop;

selecting a business method icon from an object palette; and

dragging and dropping one or more of said business method icons between two of said business state icons.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12 wherein said Business Classes are stored in a repository.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method of claim 13 wherein each Business Attribute is selected from the set consisting in part of reference (R), one-to-many (M), single (S), basic data type (B), and enumerated data type (E).

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14 wherein a first subset of information defining said Business Classes is accessed in a text based format.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15 wherein a second subset of information defining said Business Classes is accessed in a GUI format.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein Business Attributes are automatically generated and stored in a repository.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 17 wherein Business Methods are automatically generated and stored in a repository.